

WI Department, American Legion Post 234

Minutes of the General Membership Meeting, November 28, 2007

Opening:

The meeting was opened by Commander, Rick Deiss at approximately 7:30 PM, a recitation of the Pledge to Allegiance, Preamble to the Constitution, POW/MIA Ceremony and a prayer by the Chaplain Ray Janiak

Roll Call:

***Not in attendance # Excused**

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|------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Commander | Rick Deiss | 1st Vice | Ken Flock |
| 2nd Vice | Pete Hennes | | |
| Adjutant | Bob Wipf | Sgt.-at-Arms | Jon Friedrich |
| Finance Officer | Ed Mason | Parliamentarian | Ray Hoeft# |
| Chaplain | Ray Janiak | Historian | Wayne Schmick* |
| Service Officer | Ken Ochalla | | |

Members-At-Large: John Vonderloh, Dean Larsen , Ken Jungwirth

Sergeant-at-Arms Report:

- Jon reported 33 members and 1 guest Winnebago County Commander Rosemarie Pitz.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

The minutes of the Post Meeting on 10/26/07 and the PEC meeting of 11/21/07 were distributed and approved as printed.

Financial Officer Report as of 9/30/07

- Post Checking Account Balance \$2,439.84 Memorial Fund Checking Balance \$2,969.71 Memorial Money Market Account \$15,337.64. Poppy Fund \$389.05. Honor Guard Account \$100.16 Raffle Fund \$6,778.64 A copy of the full report was available on the back table. A motion was made by John Vonderloh and seconded by Dean Larsen to accept the financial report as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business:

- Commander Deiss reported on a donation request from Wisconsin Naval Ship Association to preserve the USS Edison DD-946 at Sheboygan, WI. The request was tabled to the January meeting pending the success of the holiday raffle.

American Legion Baseball

- Past Commander Hoeft reported on the details of sponsoring an American Legion Baseball Program. Research from John H and Greg Danke of the Omro Youth Baseball program indicated the only cost for the Post involved at \$125 entry fee, \$305 insurance, and the cost of uniform patches. The Omro Youth Baseball Association voted to cover most of the actual game expenses. Several members have indicated they would help with required expenses. Member Ed Pierce pledged \$125 for the entry fee. A motion was made by John Hoeft and seconded by Paul Miller to pledge \$100.00 and provide support for the establishment of an Omro Post 234 AL Baseball Team. The motion carried unanimously.

Post Raffle

- Earl Miller reported that ticket sales are on track to produce a \$3000.00 profit for the Post.
- More door prizes are needed, see Earl Miller if you can help.
- Ken Jungwirth reported on several ticket-selling opportunities.
- Rick requested the membership sign up for selling tickets at the parade.

Fall Conference Report

- Ed Mason reported on the business of the fall conference. The District voted to establish a website.

County Government Day: John Hoeft reported on the events of County Government Day.

County Council Report

- John Hoeft on behalf of the County Council request the use of Omro HS for the County Oratorical contest on Jan 13th. Bob Wipf will make the request.
- Jim Romnek reported the "Salute to the Legislator" in Madison will be February 20, 2008.
- Next Council meeting will be in Omro on February 21, 2008

!st Vice-Commander Report:

- Ken presented a report on a Petri legislation action to ensure returning soldiers get their benefits.
- Ken reported that a student at Omro High School, Amanda Nelson, was instrumental in the return of saying the "Pledge Of Allegiance" at the school. The Post will be asking her to attend a meeting in January or

February to receive recognition for this outstanding effort.

2nd Vice-Commander Report: No Report

Historian: No report

Chaplin Sickness & Distress Report:

- Ray reported that Elmer Manke was no longer at the nursing home.
- The Post was represented with Honor Guard at the Minkler funeral.
- Ed Goss reported that Post member Charles Albashion lost his grandson last week due to a hunting accident.

Adjutant's Report:

- The Adjutant reported that the PEC voted to summon Post member Tom Kopacz to a trial to start at the January 23rd Post meeting. The trial process was explained to the membership. The Adjutant requested that no conversation about this case take place between now and the trial.

Service Officer: Ken Ochalla made a recommendation to order 1000 poppies to be delivered by 4/15/2008. A motion was made by Bob Wipf and seconded by Larry Minew to use the Post general funds to purchase this year's poppies. The motion carried unanimously.

Winnebago County Report:

- Winnebago County Commander Rosemarie Pitz reported that the County was in 1st place for membership and that Omro was doing very well.
- The County Oratorical contest will be held at Omro High School on January 13th.
- A membership forum will be held at Portage on December 8th
- Salute to the Legislature at Madison will be February 20th
- Next County Council meeting will be held at Omro in February.

6th District: No report

Committees Reports

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

- A sign up sheet was circulated for December 7th and 8th at Piggly Wiggly and Dollar General

Membership:

- John Vonderloh reported that 27 members have not yet paid their dues.
- Dues can be sent to PO Box 234 Omro, WI 54963
- John reported that the Veteran's license plates have changed for the worse and encouraged the membership to contact their representative to compliant about the changes.

Honor Guard:

- Dean Larsen reported he need more members to march in the Christmas Parade.
- Dean requested more members volunteer for the Honor Guard.
- Dean will be gone for the winter and Dave Steiner will be in charge in his absence.

Veterans Breakfast At Care Center: This event is being rescheduled;

Veterans Day at the High School: Ed Goss provided a recap of the Veterans day activities.

Post 234 Oratorical Contest: Bob Wipf requested volunteers for the post contest on January 6, 2008.

Veterans Dinner: Ed Goss reported this event is scheduled for May 10th

Mid-Winter Conference: Bob Wipf reported the conference will be Jan. 24-27 at Mead Hotel in Wisconsin Rapids. Bob Wipf and Jim Romnek will attend any members wishing to attend should contact Bob Wipf

Memorial Committee: Rick Deiss provided a report on the newly formed committee

Christmas Party:

- Ken Flock reported the Christmas Party will be December 15th at Tanners Tap & Grill. Cost will be \$15.00 per person. Sign up sheet in the back of the meeting room.

Closing:

The meeting closed at approximately 8:50 PM with retiring of the POW chair and a prayer by the Chaplin, Ray Janiak.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bob Wipf,
Adjutant Post 234